

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ACDA-12 OES-09 LAB-04
SIL-01 DODE-00 L-03 PA-01 /092 W
-----034353 240402Z /20
P 240342Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9814
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 13279

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, JA, US
SUBJECT: US-JAPAN PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS

REF: TOKYO 13081

1. MOFA UN POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIVISION DIRECTOR WATANABE HAS OFFERED FOLLOWING AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR UPCOMING PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS. MOFA WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT REACTION TO THESE IDEAS AND ANY THOUGHTS RE ADDITIONAL AREAS WE MIGHT WISH TO DISCUSS.

2. IN KEEPING WITH GENERAL NATURE OF THESE CONSULTATIONS, MOFA PROPOSES FOUR BROAD AGENDA AREAS, AS FOLLOWS:

-- A. PEACEKEEPING: MOFA BELIEVES GENERAL REVIEW OF UTILITY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE OPERATIONS WOULD BE HELPFUL IN MOFA EFFORTS TO SHAPE NEW GOJ APPROACH TO PEACEKEEPING. IN THIS REGARD, WATANABE NOTED GROWING CONCERN WITHIN GOJ REGARDING ESCALATING COSTS OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS. MOFA LOOKS FORWARD TO DETAILED DISCUSSION OF STATUS OF PREPARATIONS FOR UNTAG, U.S. VIEWS OF THAT OPERATION, AND GOJ PLANS.

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-- B. JAPANESE CANDIDACY FOR SC SEAT: WATANABE SAID MOFA DID NOT WISH TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF CAMPAIGN ITSELF, BUT TO EXCHANGE VIEWS CONCERNING BROADER PROBLEM JAPAN FACES, AND WHICH IS REFLECTED IN ITS CONTEST WITH BANGLADESH; I.E., WHAT MOFA PERCEIVES AS GROWING RESENTMENT AMONG SMALL COUNTRIES STEMMING FROM JAPAN'S REPEATED CANDIDACIES, NOT ONLY FOR SC BUT OTHER OFFICES AS WELL. AT SAME TIME,

MOFA WOULD HAVE SOME OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING IMPLICATIONS
FOR JAPAN'S OVERALL UN ROLE SHOULD IT BE DEFEATED IN SC
CAMPAIGN.

-- C. NORTH-SOUTH PROBLEMS: MOFA HAS IN MIND GENERAL
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR 80'S,
COMMON FUND AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

-- D. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS: THIS WOULD
INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE REVISION OF RATES OF
ASSESSMENT, AND COMPARISON OF PROBLEMS FACED IN MAINTAINING
DOMESTIC POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR OUR RESPECTIVE LARGE
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN AGENCIES. MOFA WOULD ALSO
LIKE TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF UNU, FOCUSING NOT SO MUCH ON
LEGISLATIVE PROSPECTS FOR U.S. CONTRIBUTION, BUT ON ROLE
OF UNU ITSELF IN VIEW OF DIFFICULTIES IT HAS ENCOUNTERED
TO DATE. WATANABE SAID MOFA HAD DONE SOME SERIOUS THINKING
CONCERNING FUTURE OF UNU AND WOULD LIKE TO SHARE SOME OF
ITS IDEAS.

3. IN ADDITION TO FOREGOING, WATANABE SUGGESTED SOME
ADDITIONAL AREAS MOFA THOUGHT WOULD BE WORTH TOUCHING UPON
IF TIME ALLOWED, PERHAPS DURING LUNCHEON OR DINNER
CONVERSATIONS. THESE COULD INCLUDE ISSUES RELATED MORE
CLOSELY TO UPCOMING GA; E.G., CHARTER REVIEW, HOSTAGES,
QUESTION OF REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS IN UN ORGANS, PROSPECTS
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FOR MIDDLE EAST DEBATE OR KOREAN ITEM. OTHER POSSIBILITIES
MIGHT INCLUDE REVIEW OF SSOD OR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ILO
FOLLOWING U.S. WITHDRAWAL.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS DEPARTMENT OR USUN MAY
WISH TO OFFER. MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PLANNING MEETINGS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO13279
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780302-1087
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780726/aaaaavos.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eed4676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TOKYO 13081
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1902931
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-JAPAN PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: PORG, JA, US, UNGA, (MAYNES, C WILLIAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eed4676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014